11-16-95

Opinion
Student parents have options
See Page 2

Feature
Gym offers inspiration to the disabled
See Page 3

Sports
Coach dribbles over team
See Page 4

VALLEY STAR

Volume 47, Issue No. 46 | Los Angeles Valley College | Van Nuys, California | November 16, 1995

News Notes

Nov. 16, **Ron Freshman** will play classical guitar at 11 a.m. in Music Recital Hall.

Scholastic Honor Society presents Pizza Night at Shakey's from 6 to 9 p.m. Nov. 16 at 5321 Laurel Canyon Boulevard, 1/2 block south of Chandler.

A lecture on living with AIDS will be Nov. 16 in CC 208 from 1 to 2 p.m.

The **Astronomy Club** presents: "ET: The Real Search," in the Planetarium Nov. 17 at 8 p.m. Call ext. 335 for more information.

The **Great American Smokeout** is Nov. 17. Call (818) 780-0652 for more details.

School will be **closed** Nov. 23 and 24 for Thanksgiving.

CSUN and UCLA representatives will be on campus Nov. 20, 21 and 27. Call ext. 332 for further information.

Fay Dea will hold a workshop called Transferring to USC Nov. 21 from noon to 1 p.m. in FL 102.

AIDS testing will take place Nov. 20 and 21 in the Student Health Center. Call (818) 780-0652 for more information.

Elementary Algebra Competency test will be Nov. 21 at 6 p.m. in Administration Room 126. No appointment is necessary.

All students interested in joining the **gay, lesbian and bisexual coalition**, call Steve at (818) 787-2427.

Do you need direction? Visit the **Career/Transfer Center** or call ext. 246 to make a counseling appointment.

Black Student Union (BSU) presents "Down With the Black and Brown" Nov. 17, noon to 3 p.m. in Monarch Hall.

Second Annual **Community Forum-Festival** in tribute to the Million Man March Nov. 18 from 1 to 4 p.m. Call (213) 296-4383 for more information.

Tau Alpha Epsilon (TAE's) 3 P's day is Nov. 22 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring donations of pies, poultry and fresh produce to Monarch Square.

Dean's reception recognizes over 650 students



Naomasa Tokuhara\Valley Star
Students, glad to have the honor of making the Dean's list for spring 95 at Monarch Hall on Wed. Nov. 8.

Jo-ana D'Balcazar
Valley Star Staff Writer

The semi-annual Dean's Reception on Nov. 8 honored over 650 students, who qualified for the Dean's list. They earned a grade point average of 3.6 and above in twelve units for the preceding semester or have completed thirty or more units at the College with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.6.

Lorenzo Trujillo, ASU president inaugurated the ceremony. "It gives me great pleasure to share the success of my peers, who are accomplishing their academic goals."

Tyree Wieder, President of LAVC, says one of the best parts of her job is to stand in front of students and recognize them for their academic accomplishments.

"It's gratifying for me to celebrate the work you have done. On behalf of the faculty, staff, and administrators at Valley College, I congratulate you, together with your family and friends, on achieving the high standards of academic excellence that allow us to honor you today," says Wieder.

The guest of honor, Herbert H. Hafif, Chairman of Hafif Family Foundation, couldn't attend. However, he sent Mr. J. Rodriguez, President of the Foundation, who gave a highly motivated speech. "Community College work, because I'm a product of it. You can go as far as you want to go," says Rodriguez.

The Hafif Family Foundation has awarded 75 scholarships to students at Valley, each one for $1,000. The Foundation will be awarding a $5,000 scholarship to a student transferring to a university.

A special moment was when Lori Daney, Vice President Tau Alpha Epsilon, recognized Sam Mayo for his dedication and respect he has to each student.

Alcohol cited in accident that killed custodian

By Sandra Carranza and Sierra Roberts
Valley Star Staff Writers

Saturday morning at 7:30 a.m. Valley College lost one of its valued custodians in a serious traffic accident. Roy Murphy 33, an A shift (day shift) employee at Valley College took his fatal ride with an intoxicated driver about 75 miles north of Barstow.

According to a police report released by CHP officer, Steve Dzida, Murphy and Robert H. Allen were passengers in a 95 Ford Van allegedly driven by 29-year-old Rodney H. Allen of Pacoima, Rodney was driving at a rapid rate when he rear-ended a 92 tractor trailer.

The van continued and hit the center divider where it overturned as Murphy was ejected and killed. Both Rodney and Robert H.Allen suffered minor injuries in the crash and were taken to Barstow Community Hospital. After being released from the hospital, Rodney Allen, was booked on suspicion of driving under the influence.

Murphy is survived by his wife and three children. He began work at Valley in Sept. of 1991.

Program tailored to success of minority students

By Jo-ana D'Balcazar
Valley Star Staff Writer

The Puente Project is a program designed to help Mexican American and Latino students succeed in school, colleges and universities. It is co-sponsored by the California Community Colleges and the University of California.

The program was founded in 1981 by co-directors Felix Galaviz and Patricia McGrath at Chabot College in Hayward. Although Rod Moore and Louie Garcia set up the office at LAVC in Fall 92, the program initiated the first group in Spring 93. The second group is in progress. Garcia serves as a counselor and Moore as an English teacher.

Members are expected to take two consecutive writing classes, English 28 and English 101 to help them build confidence in their writing skills and prepare them for a higher level. "To enroll in the program, students must be at the level of English 28. It is a one-year program, where students strengthen their skills," says Garcia.

Students have the advantage to work closely with their Puente counselor to inquire career options, develop an academic educational plan and identify their goals. Another benefit is the counselor participation with members as a regular student.

According to Garcia, Puente is not only an academic program, but a large family with strong bonds, whose goal is to pursue higher education. Cooperation of peers is encouraged. Members also take other courses in groups of three or four to help each other.

Puente strives for excellence in education. For this purpose, students visit University of California and California State University campuses, and attend an annual Puente student transfer conference to motivate them and inspire them academically.

Recently, students visited UC Riverside for a motivational conference, where over 600 Puente students nationwide had the chance to meet and exchange experiences.

Students are matched with a mentor from the field of their interest. Mentors share with them their personal, academic, and career experiences, and provide them with a real life work environment.

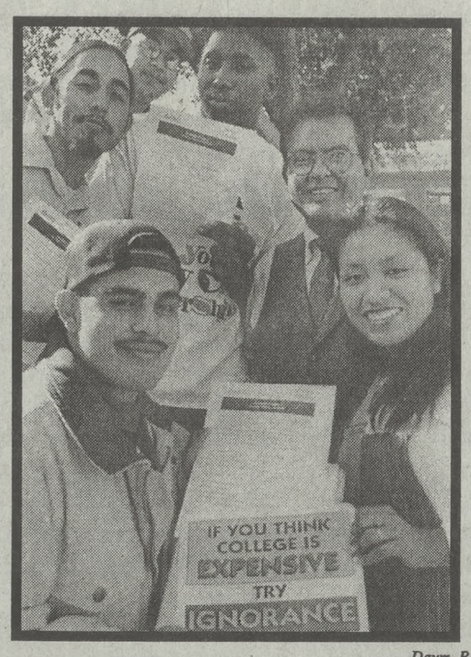
"One of the biggest satisfactions is to know that I am having a direct impact on the future of the students I work with," says Garcia. "I am glad to see our students transfer to universities. As Jessie Dominguez, former ASU president, transferred to UCLA with a major in Communications. His mentor was Dr. Julian Nava.

According to Dora Gomez, who majors in Health, Garcia is a role model. He not only helps the students as a counselor, but as a genuine friend in whom they can confide. He goes out of his way to help them accomplish their goals. "He is like a father to us, a big brother. He cares so much about us and is always supervising our progress," says Gomez.

Crediting Prof. Moore for her English improvement, Gomez says, "He has helped me to overcome my fears of English. Now I feel capable to transfer to a university, and I am no longer afraid to speak English. He is an excellent teacher."

The outstanding result of the program is due to a team effort, beginning from its founders, counselors, volunteers, mentors, and students. Since 1981, the program has helped over 4,000 students. The percentage of students transferring to universities is 66 percent. There are over 2,000 professionals from the community who donate over 18,000 hours annually to help students.

Garcia recalls with eagerness how former Puente students have accomplished their goals, such as Dan Duran, who transferred to CSUN, majoring in Business Administration. His mentor was the business firm Deloitte & Touche LLP.



Dawn Redmann\Valley Star
Louis Garcia, surrounded by students outside Administration Building.

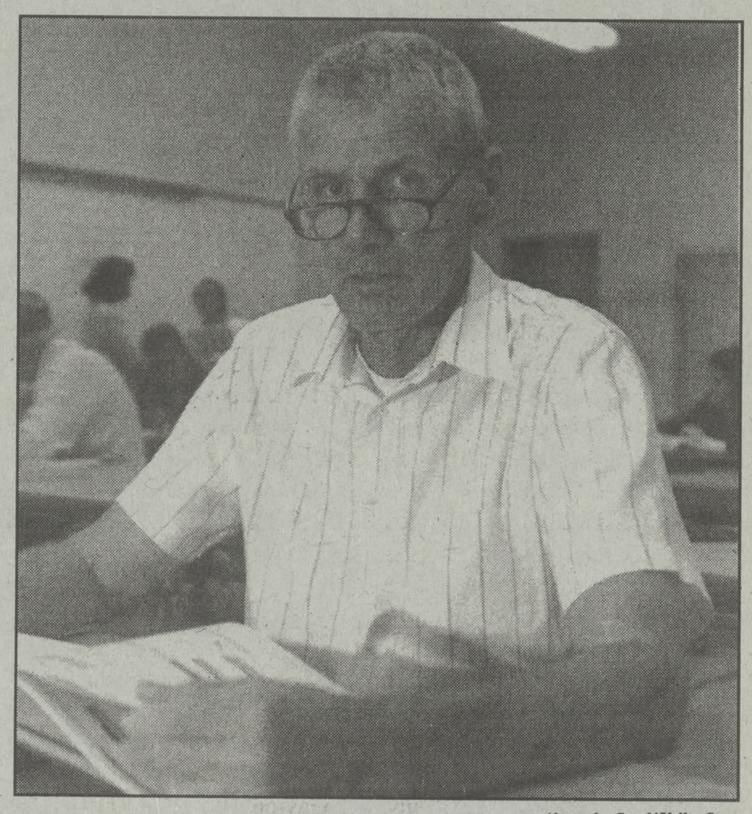
Another student this program has benefitted is Fernando Sanchez, who transferred to CAL STATE L.A. His mentor was a member of the Los Angeles Police Department.

Jennifer Galicia-Frazee, majoring in Communications, who serves as the Valley Puente reporter, says "The program has really motivated me to do well in school. Last semester I got straight A's. Moore and Garcia are excellent. I like the fact Moore takes time aside from his regular schedule to help us. His goal is not only to help us pass the class, but to teach us good English skills."

Galicia-Frazee said they are in the process to create a Puente Club, and an Alumni Association to keep track of the graduates and help new Puente members.

Interested students may contact Garcia in the Counseling department, or Moore in the English Department.

Senior instructor still meeting students' needs after 46 years of dedicated Math department service



Alexander Szuch\Valley Star
Philip Clarke returned as a senior instructor after retiring from teaching.

Opinion by Jose Israel Lemus

I met Math professor Philip Clarke about two weeks ago.

One day, after I met him, I stood outside the Business-Journalism Building, took a break from classes, observed the scenario on the campus. Students went out of buildings and into buildings, seemingly going about their daily business. The campus looked different from that I had "seen" yesterday. My talk with Clarke the day before had taken me in a little trip into history, and I thought about it. I felt like telling someone what I had learned. But, I kept it quiet, until now. Clarke saw Valley College grow from start. He has, in many ways, helped build it.

Standing there, I reflected on how I have always taken things for granted. On campus I walk into computer labs and use them. I use the learning center, I use the library, the Fireside Room for study — I use most facilities without thought, as if they were the product of a natural evolution, available to us. I took things for granted as a child. Everything came as a sort of natural possession: clothing, shoes, food, education. They just came to me. My mother took care of me, my teachers educated me, my little friends played with me, my sisters did my laundry and fed me — everything was a natural arrangement of things that constructed my little, wonderful world. I was not a rich kid, but a kid anyway. You know, kids take everything effortlessly. I guess everyone feels the same way at one point or another in their lives. You just take things for granted.

So, as I stood contemplating, a thought surprised me. I realized this attitude goes on in life. We rarely pause to analyze, appreciate, or look at the causes of events. We, I'm sure, hardly ever ask why everything around us is possible. We have a library, buildings, a hall for students, extensive parking lots, conference rooms for teachers and administrators, and tutors and laboratories for almost every subject the college offers - from English to biology, from theater to electronics. We have two big gymnasiums, a swimming pool, a football field and a successful team (first in the nation). The college has recently installed the latest computer program which can put you in touch with the world, the Internet. We are at the top.

There are people we should thank for all this. The first one should be Philip Clarke.

To build a college like Valley takes the efforts of organized teachers, student associations, the college administration, classified staff, and many more people. I can go as far as saying the entire nation's effort has gone into the building of a modern Los Angeles Valley college.

These thoughts came to mind, disorganized and almost exploding, the day after I met Professor Clarke.

Let's go into history:

It was 1951, the Los Angeles Junior College District installed the bungalows along Burbank boulevard. The campus occupied the site of a former farm, and a barn and silo remained for a few years, where the college later constructed the engineering building. Unpaved, parking lot A accumulated mud. Clarke says the lot formed a big lake in the winter, which they named "Lake Kersey," after the first college president, Vierling Kersey.

The college had opened two years earlier, in September 1949, on the grounds of Van Nuys High School. In 1951 it moved to its present location. Clarke, who earned his masters degree in Math from UCLA in January 1949, at the age of 23, taught his first class the day Valley college opened. He believes it was Sept. 12, 1949. Except for eight months of mathematical work for McDonald Douglas, he remained teaching full-time at Valley until May last year, when he retired. However, that retirement did not close a chapter in history. Clarke still teaches two classes as a senior instructor, a teaching category for those retired professors who wish to continue teaching as part-timers.

Clarke has dedicated his professional life to Valley for 46 years. That commitment of teaching, in my opinion, deserves a standing ovation. It deserves an award of honors from the college, if nothing else. He has taught virtually every math class in the college catalog, and some chemistry courses in the early years.

Clarke holds the record of years teaching for the college. He is the only remaining member of the original faculty on campus.

When the Lockheed corporation offered him a job as a mathematician in 1955, Clarke rejected it and went back to teaching for Valley because, he says, "I think it is stimulating trying to be part of the knowledge of students ... and I think in teaching I used most of the math that I'd learned and that was more interesting for me than working for Lockheed."

I kept thinking, "God this man deserves recognition for his work."

It only takes a little thought. How many students had benefited from Clarke's teaching in 46 years? Thousands. But Clarke has been more than a teacher on campus.

As head of the Academic Senate from 1964-66, and Math department chair during two periods, 1957-59 and 1992-95, Clarke participated in making decisions, which made possible the transformation of the college into the, 105-acre campus we use today. The math department used his 1974 book, "Calculus and Analytic Geometry," for several years.

Clarke possesses vast knowledge of the college. A number of math teachers go to him for orientation. Professor Donald Mazukelli told it to me with a philosophical edge. "Professor Clarke is the man we go to for advice," he said, "He's like the sun and we are the planet rotating around him."

I was amazed with Clarke's modesty: "I enjoy teaching."

But Mazukelli's metaphorical remark, though perhaps quite metaphysical, makes sense. I have realized from my findings that if you talk about the history of Valley College, you will talk about Philip Clarke and if you ask about Phil Clarke's history, you will end up talking about Valley College.

The history of the college and Philip Clarke's are historically married. And the affair continues.

One can only hope that Mr. Clarke and Valley college will continue making history. We know the college will go on. How about Clarke? -"I'll stay around for as long as I can," he told me with smiles, "if my health is okay and I don't get to senile."

Sure you won't prof.

Those who are thankful to Valley college for their educational achievements should be thankful to Philip Clarke too, for he is one who pioneered the growth of this institution.

I simply salute the man with admiration.

Student parents have options for responsibilities

Opinion by Denise Labertew

While walking on campus I can't count the number of times I've almost tripped over a child, or while sitting in class hearing a little voice. This is an issue that poses some interesting obstacles for both instructors and students.

Many students who do not have children wonder why these kids are in class. Isn't it a parents responsibility to find child care for their children. Can't parents find child care for a couple of hours a day? Not always. There are some reasons why student who are parents may have to bring their kids to class.

Children with a cold, are turned back by child care centers, family and friends can't always babysit and most parents do not have a backup sitter. Parents are hard pressed to find other child care options.

Religious holidays also pose a dilemma when dealing with child care issues, considering that Valley College does not observe most religious holidays. Many parents work harder than most at their studies and can not miss out on an important class.

Fortunately, I've found most instructors at Valley to be extremely responsible when a parent is in a bind, for they too often have children and understand the many problems facing students who are parents. Therefore, they tend not to mind it when parents bring their children to class.

I've noticed what has worked for me when I've brought my two year old son to class. Here is a list of the top six: 1. I let the instructor know ahead of time. 2. I sit near the back door of the class so you can leave at anytime. 3.I bring plenty of quiet actives for the child to do. 4. I offer to take quizes or tests ahead of time privately. 5. I am very considerate if my child acts like a monster I leave. 6. I network with other parents who are students.

We all must realize parents are taking on an incredible feat. Not only are they continuing their education, they are dealing with the everyday, never-ending stresses, frustrations and challenges of being parents. Please remember most of the time kids in class aren't even noticed. Next time be nice when you see kids on campus with their parents, now that you have a bit more insight.

And most importantly to all you parents, keep up the good work, in time your kids will thank you for it.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

In response to the article written by Ed West, October 26, "Forget about the inhumanities of the past. It is guaranteed that they will never happen again."

It is incredible how some people make ignorant statements just to make a point. If Chicanos forget about the inhumanities of the past, they are likely to happen again. If Native Americans forget the inhumanities of the past, they are likely to happen again. Nothing in life is guaranteed.

The U.S. Constitution cannot guarantee anyone safety.
The bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City can be a perfect example. People are constantly making sacrifices for others, just look at the recent hunger strike at UC Irvine for affirmative action.

Where would America be if people like them did not make the necessary sacrifices for future generations?
Carlos Ramirez
NICA - Chicano student

Dear Editor,

This is in regards to your article of Nov. 9, entitled "Guidelines formatted for radio station." First off, the title alone makes no sense. Then we read the article and we became more confused than a drunk trying to stand still.

Let's see. You first made a mistake by misquoting the program director and taking it completely out of context. The reason why we were asked not to use the infamous slogan "We don't blow, we suck", was because one or more students were offended by this and the entire broadcasting department disapproved of its use.

For some reason the writer felt the need to mention a
prior meeting within the department. Why he did, we have no clue. That was a different meeting involving the department as a whole. The November first meeting was what he was reporting on.

This meeting was for broadcasting students and DJ's only. As to why journalism students were there or even mentioned in the story has no point to it. Your photographer present was rude and a complete jerk to everyone there. Don't send him to the station again.

You also failed to mention the other instructor who was present at the meeting, Gail Nastasia. The students you quoted, with the exception of the program director, were unclear and unimportant to the article at large.

In the future, before an article is printed, run both a spell and grammar check, and read it aloud. This will save you the trouble. Thanks.

Ken Edelberg,
station manager
David Schulkin,
program director

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✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS ✪

The Valley Star will receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers. The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic, religious, sexist, or sexually oriented denigrations. Letter must be signed and include student's ID number. Letters may be dropped at the Valley Star Bungalow 25, by Monday morning for the following Thursday.

Exercise is more than a choice

By Adam Adler
Valley Star Staff Writer

Exercise is largely a voluntary thing. Most people chose whether or not they want to work out and then let the pieces fall where they may. There is a group on campus that have less of a choice about exercising, to them exercise is more of a necessity. The people enrolled in P.E. 96 or 230, the disabled student P.E. classes, exercise is a matter of improving their quality of life and learning how to do things for themselves.

Room 103 in the Men's Gym is the Disabled Students Gym, where 150 people a week share a space the size of a bungalow classroom to work out. The gym is one of only public programs in the valley that specializes in physical therapy and rehabilitation.

It gets referrals from all nine city junior colleges and from hospitals. The program at the gym takes two types of people; those who are recovering from temporary disabling accidents and those who have life long disabilities. Once a person starts the program they get evaluated and put on personal program. The goal is to get them into a regular P.E. class or to improve their quality of life as much as possible.

The program at the gym is a regular college class. After enrolling in school program participants follow their fitness plan and get graded on it like any other class. "Most of these people have seen doctors or physical therapists that have done everything for them. They are used to having things done for them. When they get to a class where they have to do everything for themselves it's a real challenge." said Jim Gayton, director of the adaptive P.E. program and the Disabled Students Gym. Aside from being professor of physical education with a minor in psychology Gayton is a certified physical trainer and has a credential in adaptive education. As well as working to maintain the program Gayton takes part in every student's personal program. He went on to say "If you present a challenge to them they rise up to meet the challenge. If you try to present that challenge in a regular class it's not possible for them to accomplish that."

In addition to providing rehabilitation the class stresses real progress in following the program and learning about fitness.

Gayton lectures each week on related fitness subjects and every student is required to record their exercise routine for their grade. Gayton stressed that the program is used to get people into school that otherwise would not go. He said, "Many people with disabilities that have been in a sheltered environment, they use this program as a stepping stone. Some where, some how they break out and get into the routine in school."

Some of the students have real difficulty completing the academic requirements because of their disability. This is one of many cases where students in the gym help others with their disabilities. The State allows students to bypass the repeat limitation if they can show progress with their disability and that they are really learning something. A good percentage of the students that start at the gym go on to take regular college classes.

There are other difficulties at the gym that are not related to student disabilities. There is no phone in the gym so if there was a emergency someone would have to go the fitness center or the pool to make a call. Sometimes it takes two or three days for a phone message to get through because it has to go through other offices first. Gayton did say that President Wieder and Dean Mayo have been working hard to get them a phone, it is just that there are no extra phone lines on campus.

The gym is also without air conditioning. They have been on the top of the list for air conditioning for a long time, but like the rest of the campus, they are still waiting. Last spring a doctor came and reported the heat was unhealthy, especially since the disabled need a controlled environment due to their difficulties.

At the very worst some people can't work out if it gets too hot. This is not good because disabled people loose much more than others when they stop their exercise programs. The gym has access to the pool though, which helps greatly. Still the tiny room that serves as a gym is often over crowed.

Gayton commented it is likely they will have to move to a larger room in the future. To remedy the situation, they try to encourage the students to come during gym's less busy hours.

In addition to Gayton, the gym has one college staff employee and two student workers. The gym also takes student volunteers.

Anyone is encouraged to volunteer. Students thinking of going into nursing or physical therapy will find the volunteer program especially helpful. The volunteers come assist people in working out but more importantly they make friends and offer encouragement.

Gayton also encourages people to volunteer if they have had a disability in the family or if they have ever felt sorry for themselves. He commented, "If a person has ever felt sorry for themselves they could see how people wok an overcome adversity, they wouldn't feel like they couldn't have things without working for them."

Mary Bella has been coming to the gym for 10 years. She is confined to a wheel chair by chance birth defect that severed her spine at birth, giving her no use of her lower body. In the gym she lifts weights.

Bella enjoys the chance for independence she gets and thinks of everyone at the gym as a family. "the one thing Jim has taught me," she said, "whatever my limitations are, not to let them stand in the way of achieving my goals.

Like Bella, Jerre Richards gets around in a wheel chair but gets a good work out at the gym. She was diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy 14 years ago and has been coming to the gym for the last two years. Before she joined the gym, Richards did not work out at all.

Now she uses several of the gym's machines but saves the pool as her favorite. She enjoys the friendship and the way everybody works together at the gym.

About the instructors, Richards said, "We need more people like Jim, and Lori and Domanic and Steve."

Steve Finch is one of the student workers and has been with the Gym for two years. He considers it a "Lucky Day" when he started working there.

Finch enjoys working and helping people at the same time. One of his favorite things to do is invent games to help people to work out.

Finch could not be any happier about what he does at the gym. He commented, "I enjoy being with the people. I have made a lot of friends here. Every person that comes here, you can invent or figure out something to help them. It is really creative here."

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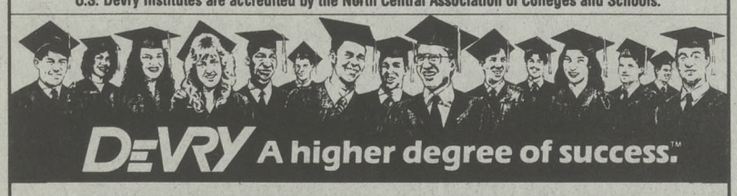
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Women's basketball coach leads team to first place at tip-off tournament

By Bristol Mac Donald
Entertainment Editor

John Taylor, head coach of the women's basketball team, displays a proud hearted smile. He is still riding high on his team's first place championship win at the Mt. Sac Tip-Off Tournament, last Thursday at Mount San Antonio College.

In his office, surrounded by numerous trophies, collected throughout the years, Taylor takes a seat at his desk. He is eager to talk about women's basketball, a sports team often overlooked.

"The women's game has evolved so much. Now there's a lot of opportunity for women," says Taylor. He speaks of four time All-American players like Cheryl Miller and Ann Meyers and televised women's basketball on ESPN with excitement. "The evolution of women's basketball is on the rise," he adds.

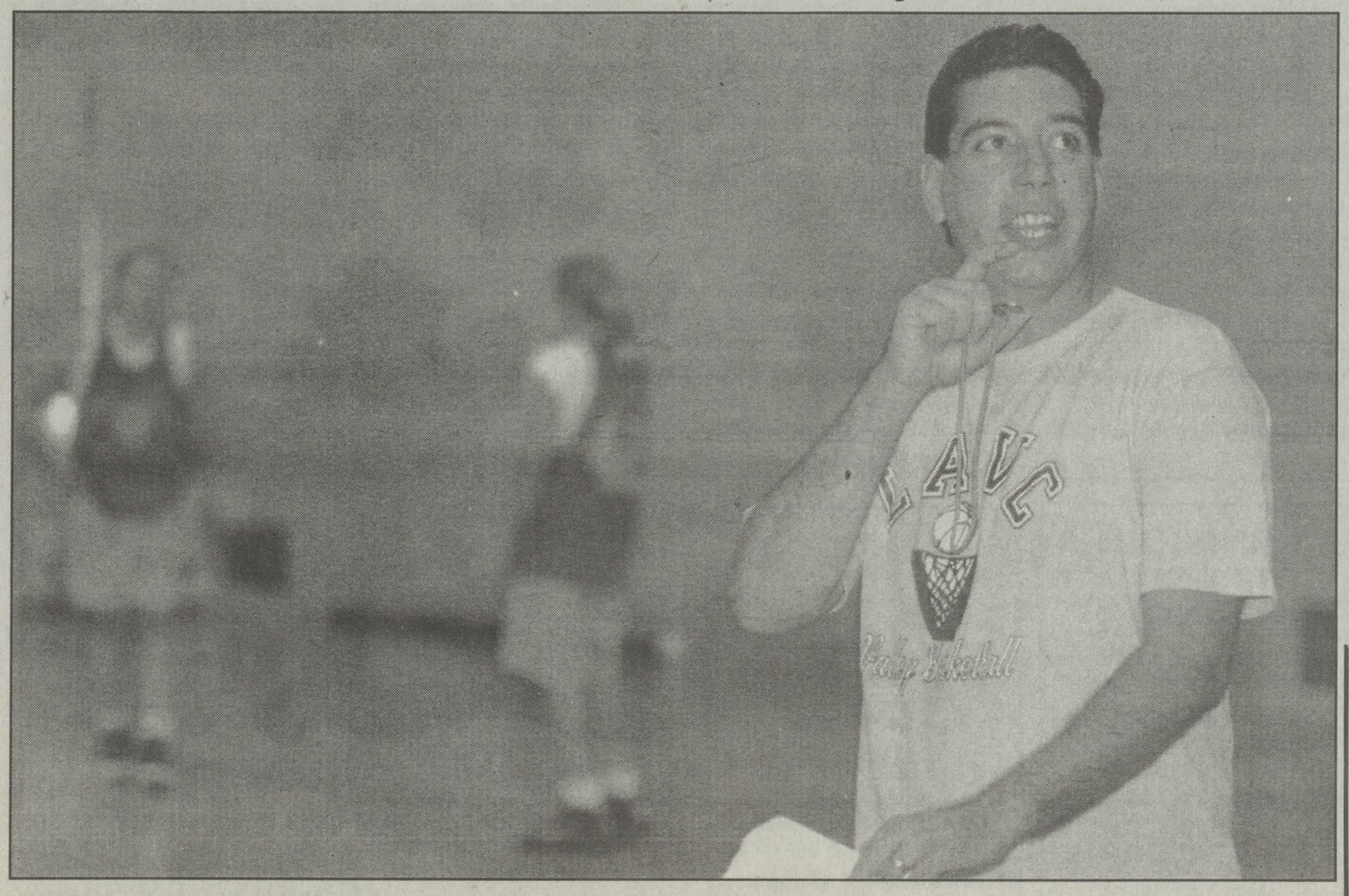
Now, in his eighth year at Valley College, five years as assistant to coach Doug Michelson before moving up to head coach, he rattles off the achievements of his teams. "We've only lost twice in the state championship. We've won the conference, up until the past two years, five straight times, and been second the last two years," he says fired up.

Taylor says he can not remember a time when he wasn't involved with basketball. He played high school ball at Poly Tech and one year at Pierce College where he was coached by Michelson. He went on to earn a bachelors degree at Cal State Northridge and is currently working on his masters in education at Chapman University.

When he is not coaching, he travels throughout Los Angeles County teaching adaptive P.E., working with handicapped children. "I get a good balance between the elite athletes and someone I'm trying to help catch a ball," he says with genuine since sincerity.

When questioned about the differences between coaching women as opposed to men, Taylor laughs, "If you put all the biases aside, the main difference is just the athleticism. I think there's a fallacy that the women aren't competitive and they don 't want to win as bad as the men. That's the furthest from the truth. There's a lot of camaraderie among them. They bond together."

Excitement grows in Taylor's voice as he talks about the new season. He describes his players as hard working, reliable and eager to play. "They are excellent players. They all want to compete. We have the chance of being a hell of a team this year," he says.



Rod Goodman\Valley Star
John Taylor, women's basketball coach, prepares his team for their next competition during practice in the Women's Gym, Mon. Nov. 13.

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